

The first objection is that the limitations of claims 8-10 are already in claim 1, and claims 8-10 are dependent on claim 1. Specifically, it is stated that “first and second circuit devices are already in claim 1.” As we understand it, the concern is that claims 8-10 do not impose further limitations on claim 1. It is respectfully urged that the Examiner reconsider this objection.

Claim 1 is directed to a surface mount connector. It is correct that it is a connector for connecting first and second circuit devices, but the limitations recited are those of the connector.

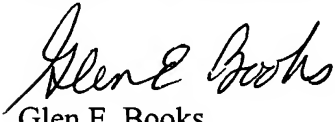
Claims 8-10, in contrast, are directed to a connected circuit assembly. The limitations recited are first and second circuit devices connected by the connector of claim 1.

That these claims are not redundant can be seen by consideration of the fact that they cover different structures. Claim 1 covers a connector, but claims 8-10 cover a structure comprising two circuit devices connected by the connector. Thus infringing structures and royalty bases for claim 1 are different from those for claims 8-10. The connector alone would not infringe claims 8-10. The connector alone is not a “connected circuit assembly” and lacks the recited circuit devices. It is correct that the connector is for the purpose of connecting first and second circuit devices and has features recited for connecting to the circuit devices. This does not, however, mean that claim 1 requires the presence of the circuit devices or that they be connected. Accordingly, it is submitted that claims 8-10 are not redundant.

The second objection was to Fig. 2 of the drawing. A substitute drawing has been enclosed changing the incorrect letter “g” to “y”.

In view of the foregoing it is believed that this application as amended complies with all formal requirements and is now in condition for allowance. It is believed that no additional extension fees or other fees are believed due. However, in the event that additional fees are due, the Commissioner is authorized to charge such fees to Deposit Account 501358.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Glen E. Books".

Glen E. Books
Reg. No. 24,950